6/2/84 A3350-1

AHAM

NEWS RELEASE

A Report to Communicators of Home Appliance Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RECORD MONTH FOR MAJOR APPLIANCES

PACED BY ROOM AIR CONDITIONERS

CHICAGO -- The major household appliance industry shipped 3,660,900 units in May -- the largest appliance shipment for any month in history, reports the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM). Much of the credit for the industry's new record goes to the outstanding level of room air conditioner shipments.

The new record was an encouraging indicator for an industry driving toward new sales records. Year-to-date shipments currently exceed 16.5 million units, which is 7.8% higher than the 15.3 million units shipped in the first five months of 1973, the industry's record year.

May also marks the fifth consecutive 3-million-unit month for total factory shipments, an event which occurred only once previously in 1973.

The sharp rebound in room air conditioners led the way to the new record level. The May shipment of 588,000 room air conditioners yielded increases of 96% over May 1983 and 83% for the first five months.

AHAM anticipates that total shipment levels will remain high in upcoming months, but that the rates of increase will moderate as figures for the remainder of the year are compared to the relatively high shipment levels recorded in the last half of 1983.

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MAJOR HOME APPLIANCE FACTORY SHIPMENTS THOUSANDS OF UNITS
(Domestic Plus Export)
May, 1984

	May 1984	May 1983	% Change	Calendar Year to Date 1984	1983	% Change
ALL MAJOR APPLIANCES**	3,660.9	2,891.8*	+26.6%	16,521.4	12,438.4*	+32.3%
ROOM AIR CONDITIONERS	588.0	300.0	+96.0	1,980.6	1,082.6	+82.9
DEHUMIDIFIERS	110.8	77.8*	+42.4	354.6	276.8*	+28.1
DISHWASHERS - TOTAL	295.9	259.3	+14.1	1,361.8	1,131.8	+20.3
Built-In	277.0	235.4	+17.7	1,259.4	1,029.2	+22.4
Portable	18.9	23.9	-20.9	102.4	102.6	- 0.2
DISPOSERS	279.1	241.9*	+15.4	1,725.9	1,418.4*	+21.7
COMPACTORS	15.5	13.6*	+14.0	72.1	56.6*	+27.4
REFRIGERATION - TOTAL	684.3	576.6*	+18.7	2,974.0	2,465.7*	+20.6
Refrigerators	574.2	463.4*	+23.9	2,487.6	1,929.3*	+28.9
Freezers - Total	110.1	113.1*	- 2.7	486.3	536.4*	- 9.3
Upright	51.8	48.0*	+ 7.9	229.9	238.0*	- 3.4
Chest	58.3	65.1*	-10.4	256.4	298.4*	-14.1
ELECTRIC RANGES - TOTAL	262.5	251.7*	+ 4.3	1,256.0	1,058.5*	+18.7
Free Standing	209.5	205.3*	+ 2.0	1,002.0	847.1*	+18.3
Built-In	53.0	46.3*	+14.5	254.0	211.4*	+20.2
MICROWAVE OVENS/RANGES***	718.6	492.4	+45.9	3,239.4	1,851.0	+75.0
HOME LAUNDRY - TOTAL	725.2	697.9*	+ 3.9	3,649.9	3,217.0*	+13.5
Washers - Total	435.9	415.9	+ 4.8	2,126.1	1,905.2	+11.6
Automatic	435.9	410.2	+ 6.3	2,126.1	1,875.6	+13.4
Wringer & Other	#	5.7	#	#	29.6	#
Dryers - Total	289.3	282.0*	+ 2.6	1,523.8	1,311.8*	+16.2
Electric	228.6	224.8*	+ 1.7	1,216.5	1,044.8*	+16.4
Gas	60.7	57.2	+ 6.1	307.3	267.1	+15.1

* Revised
** Numbers do not add because of overlapping product categories
*** Includes U.S. produced and imported microwave ovens and combination microwave oven/ranges
\# Series discontinued